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PERMAN & GREEN 425 POST ROAD FAIRFIELD, CT 06824			EXAMINER GEREZGIHER, YEMANE M	
			ART UNIT 2144	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/761,040	Applicant(s) SALMI ET AL.	
	Examiner Yemane M. Gerezgiher	Art Unit 2144	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 November 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The response filed on 03/05/2007 has been entered. Claims 1-26 remain pending in this application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed on 03/05/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's closest point to an argument (if any) in this current remark/response read as follows:

Jaisimha is for the problem of controlling access (see column 2, lines 15-17). Jaisimha has streaming links, which are basically just TEXT, and nothing but text. The text is not the presently claimed multimedia component. Further, Jaisimha discloses adding a textual reference to a multimedia component, and not a component itself in column 7, lines 18-19. Therefore, the claims are novel in view of Jaisimha. In other words, in the claimed invention the content is delivered with the real multimedia message, and not from a server after the alleged "multimedia message" of the Jaisimha message has been received (Remark, Page 11, ¶1).

→ Examiner disagrees with such allegation for the following reasons:

Indeed Applicant correctly addresses that “Jaisimha has streaming links” recited above also evidenced in Fig. 1, attached below), but it is not true that the that Jaisimha disclosed “just TEXT, and nothing but text”. Jaisimha clearly disclosed plurality of multimedia components including video, audio, text, images [see Abstract (“If so, the media server transmits the media file using the desired type of transmission, and the media player renders the media data into video, sound or image signals. If the media player receives the media data using a type of transmission that permits storing the media data locally, the media player may transfer the media data to a portable media player....”, Column 1, Lines 36-47 (“...a media object (e.g., video clip, audio clip, image)...” and Column 4, Lines 40-65 (“...a media object 106 such as, for example, a video clip, audio clip, or graphical image. The media server 102 transmits the media data via a network 108 to media receiving devices ... transmission of media data may be referred to as streaming ... In other cases, however, a media receiving device receives an entire video clip, audio clip, or image and stores it in a non-volatile memory...”)]. Furthermore, Jaisimha disclosed plurality of multimedia components along with a presentation model (SMIL TM) communicated to a mobile station as recited in Column 7, Lines 5-25.

Once again, the applicant has not argued any narrower interpretation of the claim language, nor amended the claims significantly enough to

construe a narrower meaning to the limitations. As the claims breadth allows multiple interpretations and meanings, which are broader than Applicant's disclosure, the Examiner is forced to interpret the claim limitations as broadly and as reasonably possible, in determining patentability of the disclosed invention. Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir.1993).

Failure for Applicant to significantly narrow definition/scope of the claims and supply arguments commensurate in scope with the claims implies the Applicant intends broad interpretation be given to the claims. The Examiner has interpreted the claims with scope parallel to the Applicant in the response, and reiterates the need for the Applicant to more clearly and distinctly define the claimed invention.

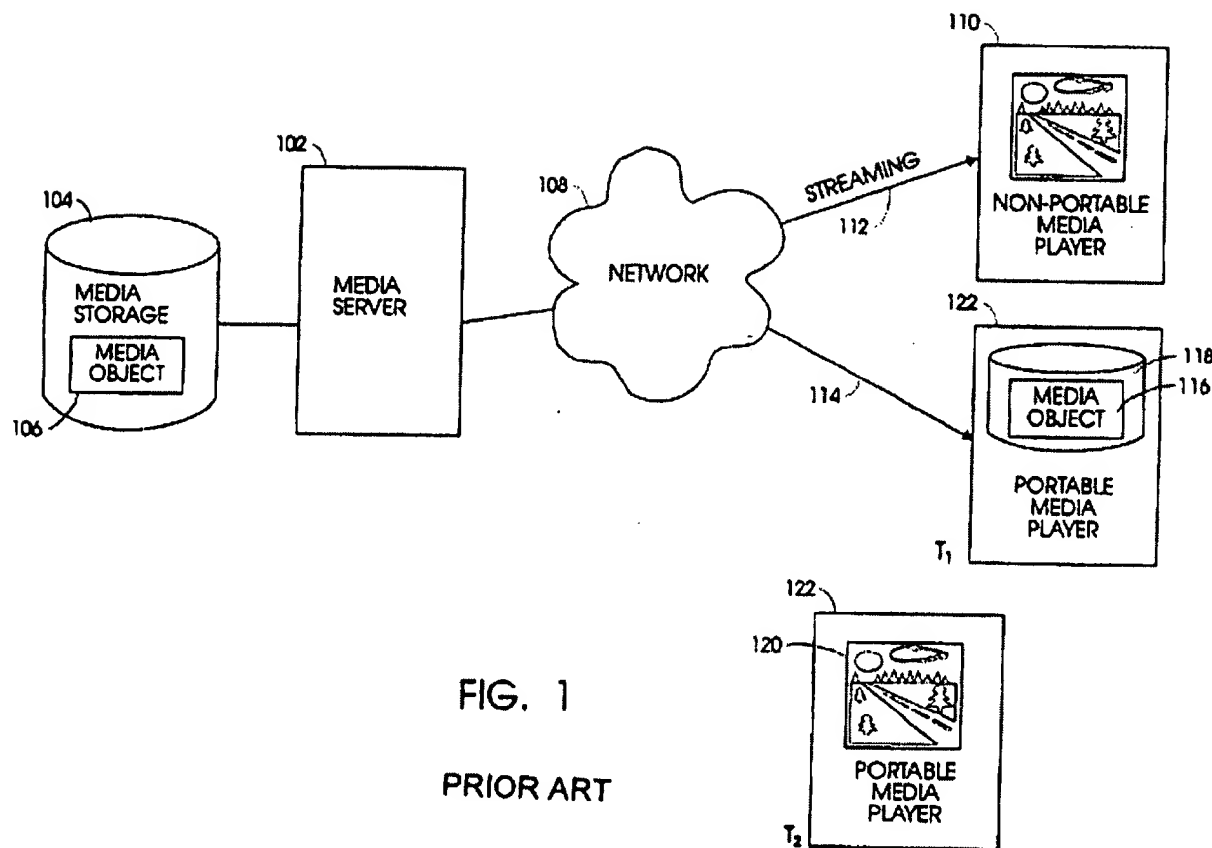
It is the examiner's position that the incremental amendment made to the claims so far has been minimal to properly overcome the prior art of record by providing a patentably unique functional limitation to overcome the pending rejection.

Note: If further prosecution on the merits of the instant application is pursued, Applicant is strongly encouraged to further incorporate into the independent claim some details or features (if any) of this instant application in order to overcome the pending rejection and perhaps expedite prosecution of this instant application.

Examiner previously indicated a potential amendment to the claims that might help get this application off this impasse (at least to overcome the pending rejection). The examiner once again likes to point to the applicant's Spec. On Page 12, ¶2, which read as follows:

...multimedia message service center MMSC can examine which multimedia components are contained in the message and compare them with the multimedia properties of the receiving terminal MS. Thus, in some applications, the multimedia message service center MMSC can leave such components which the receiving multimedia terminal MS is not capable of processing, untransmitted...

The underlined functional limitation above cited in the ¶ and the limitations of claim 3 rewritten in combination with the limitations of claim 1 would at least overcome the pending rejection under Jaisimha. Correspondingly, such potential amendment to the rest of the independent claims could result the same.



Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the

United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jaisimha et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,487,663) hereinafter Jaisimha.

As per claim 1, A method for presenting information contained in user messages in a user interface of a multimedia terminal [See Figure 3, Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")], in which method the message comprises address data indicative of a recipient of the user message [Jaisimha disclosed "IP address which is used by TCP/IP (transmission control protocol/internet protocol) to direct data to a particular application" (Column 8, Lines 48-50)] and at least one multimedia component [See Column 7, Lines 18-19, Jaisimha disclosed two components image and audio contained with in the message], wherein in the method, a presentation model [See Column 7, Lines 1-23] is formed to contain information related to at least one multimedia component included in the user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")], said presentation model is supplemented with a reference to the location of data in said user message related to presenting said at least one multimedia component in said user message , said last recited user message being the same user message as said first user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")], [See Column 7, Lines 18-25,

having therein a location reference to the enclosed components in the message] said presentation model is added to said same user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message"), since there is no different messages involved in the claim and/or the teachings of Jaisimha, the user message disclosed is pointing to the said same user message see Column 5, Lines 11-29, Column 6, Line 67 through Column 7, Lines 25] and said user message is transmitted to the multimedia terminal in a multimedia messaging system[Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message"), and communicating multimedia messages (audio, video or other multimedia messages) to communication devices (such as a mobile station) over a network (See Jaisimha Figure 3, Fig. 1 (also disclosed above). Column 5, Lines 11-29, Column 7, Lines 18-19, Lines 1-23, Column 9, Lines 56-67)]

As per claim 2, the method according to claim 1, wherein said presentation model is set up in the terminal which transmits the message. [See Column 7, Lines 1-23 and Figure 3, Jaisimha taught a multimedia terminal generating the presentation model]

As per claim 3, The method according to claim 1, wherein said multimedia message transmission system comprises a multimedia message service center, in which messages addressed to the multimedia terminal are received to be transmitted further to the multimedia terminal, and that the presentation model is

set up in the multimedia message service center. See Figure 3, showing a multimedia server "MMSC" sending multimedia messages to a mobile station and, See Column 7, Lines 1-23 a presentation model of W3C's used in presenting the multimedia messages at a mobile user terminal]

As per claim 4, the method according to claim 1, wherein said presentation model is formed by using the SMIL format. [See Column 7, Lines 1-23, Jaisimha disclosed a presentation model SMIL]

As per claim 5, the method according to claim 1, wherein said data related to presenting the component comprises said component. [See Column 7, Lines 18-19, Jaisimha disclosed two components image and audio contained with in the message]

As per claim 6, the method according to claim 1, wherein said data related to presenting the component comprises the search address of said component. [See Column 7, Lines 18-19, Jaisimha disclosed a "src" or a source of the components used to search and execute the components contained in the message and See Figure 3, showing a remote search locations for the components to be played or displayed on the mobile terminal].

As per claim 7, The method according to claim 1, wherein the user interface of the terminal for presenting the message comprises at least a display, at least one component comprises visual information, [See Column 7, Lines 18-19, Jaisimha disclosed a visual and audio components contained with in the message] wherein

said presentation model is also supplemented with information about placing the component on said display [See Column 7, Lines 1-23, Jaisimha taught SMIL presentation which is used to coordinate placing and playing sequence of components contained in a multimedia message].

As per claim 8, The method according to claim 1, the user interface of the terminal for presenting the message comprises at least audio means at least one component comprises audio information, [See Column 7, Lines 18-19, Jaisimha disclosed a visual and audio components contained with in the message] wherein said presentation model is also supplemented with data about converting the component into audio information in the audio means. [See Column 7, Lines 1-23, Jaisimha taught SMIL presentation which is used to coordinate placing and playing sequence of components contained in a multimedia message where the components in the message are recognize by a sound controller and converted to audio].

As per claims 9 and 24, The method according to claim 1, said presentation model is also supplemented with information about the time of effect of the component, such as a display time of an image or a text, or a time of repeating a sound. [This limitation is inherent future of the known presentation model SMIL [Synchronized Media Integration Language], according to the specification of SMIL 1.0 published in 1998; W3C defines SMIL as “a markup language designed to present multiple media files together. For instance, instead of using a video with an integrated soundtrack, a separate video and sound file can be used and

synchronized via SMIL. This allows users to choose different combinations, e.g., to get a different language sound track, and permits text transcripts to be optionally presented; both options have accessibility benefits.”], SMIL allows integrating a set of independent multimedia objects into a synchronized multimedia.

As per claim 10, the method according to claim 9, the message comprises at least two components, wherein said presentation model is also supplemented with information about the mutual synchronization of the components. [This claim limitation is rejected for the same reason claim 9 is rejected].

As per claim 11, the method according to claim 1, the message comprises at least two pages, wherein said presentation model is supplemented with data about the order of presenting the pages. [See Column 7, Lines 18-19, two different components image and audio components displayed in the user interface of a mobile terminal, See Figures 3-5 and See rejection made to claim 9 above]

As per claim 12, A system for transmitting multimedia user messages, [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages (“user message”)], said system comprising a transmitter configured to transmit [See Figure 1, a multimedia server transmitting multimedia components to a multimedia station] a user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages (“user message”)] to a multimedia terminal which comprises a

user interface configured to present [See Figure 3, having therein a graphical user interface to interact with the message] information contained in the user messages [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")], and each user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")] comprises address data indicative of a recipient of the user message and at least one multimedia component, [Jaisimha disclosed "IP address which is used by TCP/IP (transmission control protocol/internet protocol) to direct data to a particular application" (Column 8, Lines 48-50), See Column 7, Lines 18-19, two components image and audio contained with in the message] a modification block configured to form a presentation model [See Column 7, Lines 1-23] in the user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")], the presentation model comprising information related to presenting said at least one multimedia component included in said user message, [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")] that said presentation model is supplemented with a reference to the location of data in said user message related to presenting said at least one multimedia component in said user message, said last recited user message being the same user message as said first user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia

video/audio contents/messages ("user message"), See Column 7, Lines 18-25, having therein a location reference to the enclosed components in the message] and that said presentation model is added to said same user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message"), since there is no different messages involved in the claim and/or the teachings of Jaisimha, the user message disclosed is pointing to the said same user message] and a compiling block configured to attach said presentation model in said same user message [Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message") and integrating the message in to a presentation model (SMIL) as recited in Column 7, Lines 5-25, Column 9, Lines 56-67,) and Column 5, Lines 11-29, Column 6, Line 67 through Column 7, Lines 25], wherein said transmitter is configured to transmit said user message to the multimedia terminal in a multimedia messaging system [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message"), and communicating multimedia messages (text, audio, video or other interactive multimedia messages) to communication devices (such as a mobile station) over a network (See Jaisimha Figure 3, Fig. 1 (also disclosed above). Column 5, Lines 11-29, Column 7, Lines 18-19, Lines 1-23, Column 9, Lines 56-67)].

As per claim 13, the system for transmitting multimedia messages according to claim 12, the terminal which transmits the message comprises a circuit configured to set up the presentation model. [See Figure 3-5 and Column 7, Lines 1-

23, Jaisimha disclosed a mobile station generating and setting the presentation model]

As per claim 14, The system for transmitting multimedia messages according to claim 12, it comprises a multimedia message service center which comprises a receiver configured to receive messages addressed to the multimedia terminal, a circuit configured to transmit the messages further to the multimedia terminal, and a message set up block configured to set up a presentation model. [See Figure 3-5 and Column 7, Lines 1-23, Jaisimha disclosed a mobile station generating and setting the presentation model].

As per claim 15, the system for transmitting multimedia messages according to claim 12, said presentation model is configured to use the SMIL format. [See Column 7, Lines 1-23, SMIL is used to present media components in a multimedia terminal]

As per claim 16, The system for transmitting multimedia messages according to claim 12, in which the user interface of the terminal presenting the message comprises at least a display, at least one component comprises visual information, wherein said presentation model is also supplemented with data about placing the component on said display. [This claim limitation is rejected for the same reason claim 3 is rejected above]

As per claim 17, The system for transmitting multimedia messages according to claim 12, in which the user interface of the terminal presenting the message comprises at least audio means, at least one component comprises audio information, wherein said presentation model is also supplemented with data about converting the component into audio information in audio means. [This claim limitation is rejected for the same reason claim 8 is rejected above].

As per claims 18 and 25, The system for transmitting multimedia messages according to claim 12, said presentation model is also supplemented with information about the time of effect of the component, such as the time of displaying an image or a text, or the time of repeating a sound. [This claim limitation is rejected for the same reason claim 9 is rejected above]

As per claims 19 and 20 are rejected for the same reason claim 9 is rejected above.

As per claim 21, A transmitting multimedia terminal which comprises a user interface configured to form user messages comprising address data indicative of a recipient of the user message [Jaisimha disclosed "IP address which is used by TCP/IP (transmission control protocol/internet protocol) to direct data to a particular application" (Column 8, Lines 48-50), Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message") via the mobile terminal user interface (see Figs. 3&5)] of at least one

multimedia component, and a transmitter configured to transmit the user messages [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")], the multimedia terminal also comprises a modification block configured to form a presentation model in the user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")], [See Column 7, Lines 1-19, two components image and audio contained with in the message represented using a formed presentation language SMIL] which presentation model comprises information related to presenting at least one component added in the user message, [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")], [See Column 7, Lines 18-19, components added] and which presentation model is supplemented with a reference to the location of information related to presenting at least one component in said user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")]. [See Column 7, Lines 18-25, having therein a location reference to the enclosed components in the message] said last recited user message being the same user message as said first user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message"), See Column 7, Lines 18-25, having therein a location reference to the enclosed components in the message] and a compiling block configured to attach said presentation model in said

same user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message"), since there is no different messages involved in the claim and/or the teachings of Jaisimha, the user message disclosed is pointing to the said same user message. Furthermore, Jaisimha disclosed integrating the message in to a presentation model (SMIL) as recited in Column 7, Lines 5-25. In Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message") and See Column 5, Lines 11-29, Column 6, Line 67 through Column 7, Lines 25] wherein said transmitter is configured to transmit said user message to the multimedia terminal in a multimedia messaging system [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message"), and communicating multimedia messages (text, audio, video or other interactive multimedia messages) to communication devices (such as a mobile station) over a network (See Jaisimha Figure 3, Fig. 1 (also disclosed above). Column 5, Lines 11-29, Column 7, Lines 18-19, Lines 1-23, Column 9, Lines 56-67)].

As per claim 22, A receiving multimedia terminal which comprises a receiver configured to receive user messages [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")], and a user interface configured to present information contained in the user messages [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")], [See Figure 3, showing a

transmission means and a multimedia station having therein an interface for displaying the transmitted message] and each user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")] address data indicative of a recipient of the user message and at least one multimedia component, [Jaisimha disclosed "IP address which is used by TCP/IP (transmission control protocol/internet protocol) to direct data to a particular application" (Column 8, Lines 48-50), See Column 7, Lines 1-19, two components image and audio contained with in the message represented using a formed presentation language SMIL] an interpretation block configured to interpret a presentation model formed in a user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message")], which presentation model comprises information related to presenting said at least one multimedia component, and which presentation model is supplemented with a reference to the location of information in said user message related to presenting said at least one multimedia component in said user message, said last recited user message being the same user message as said first user message [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message") and See Column 7, Lines 18-25, having therein a location reference to the enclosed components in the message. Since there is no different messages involved in the claim and/or the teachings of Jaisimha, the user message disclosed is pointing to the said same user message]

and a compiling block configured to find out said presentation model from said user message [Jaisimha disclosed a SMIL based message transmitted to a mobile station, which is then executed to be rendered to the mobile device in accordance with the presentation model (see Figs. 2,3&5, and Column 7, Lines 5-25), in doing so the ability of the mobile terminal in rendering messages transmitted along with the presentation model does imply finding out the presentation model. Furthermore, in Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message") and see Figure 3 and Column 7, Lines 18-19, Jaisimha disclosed a multimedia terminal, locating the multimedia components within the message], wherein said transmitter is configured to transmit said user message to the multimedia terminal in a multimedia messaging system [Column 9, Lines 56-67, Jaisimha disclosed a user creating a multimedia video/audio contents/messages ("user message"), and communicating multimedia messages (text, audio, video or other interactive multimedia messages) to communication devices (such as a mobile station) over a network (See Jaisimha Figure 3, Fig. 1 (also disclosed above). Column 5, Lines 11-29, Column 7, Lines 18-19, Lines 1-23, Column 9, Lines 56-67)].

As per claim 23, the multimedia terminal according to claim 21, it is a mobile terminal. [See Figures 3-5, a mobile terminal displaying a multimedia message].

Claim 26 has substantially the same limitations as in claim 1 above. Thus, it is rejected with the same rationale.

Conclusion

5. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

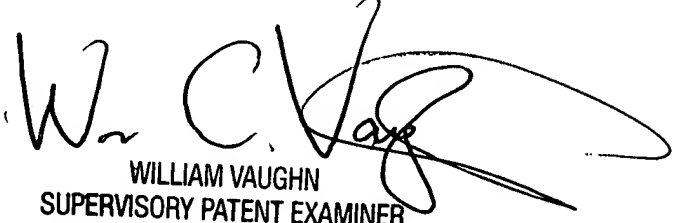
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yemane M. Gerezgiher whose telephone number is (571) 272-3927. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM Mon - Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William C. Vaughn can be reached on (571) 272-3922. The

fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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